

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, August 15, 2013
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Members Present: Nancy Barker, Guy Hegg, Susan Locke, Tom Snider, Tom Weidner

UW-Extension Staff: Chris Kniep, Sarah Thompson, Nick Schneider, Catherine Neiswender, Melody Piper

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Nancy Barker.

Comments from the Public related to items on the agenda - none

Approval of Minutes: June 20th, 2013 and July 18th, 2013

Motion by Guy Hegg/second Tom Widener to amend the minutes of June 20, 2013 to read: *Supervisor Hegg asked for clarification on re-scheduling committee meetings going forward as a result of the May 2013 meeting having to be cancelled. Hegg asked that committee members, as elected representatives of Winnebago County, be contacted before department personnel for preference of time for a rescheduled meeting instead of only being offered yes/no for a meeting date/time.* Motion carried 5-0 Hegg/Weidner moved to approve the amended minutes of the June 20th meeting. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Motion to approve the July 18, 2013 meeting minutes: Tom Snider/Susan Locke moved for approval of the July 18th 2013 meeting minutes. Motion carried 5-0.

Program Reports:

Storage Building Updates: Tom Snider reported on the July 15th tour of the storage buildings on the Expo grounds property. No one from parks attended the tour. Mike Elder from facilities led the tour. After much discussion, Tom Snider moved to have Guy Hegg write a proposal to allow UW-Extension property to remain in the current storage facility on fairgrounds site. Seconded by Tom Weidner. Motion carried 5-0.

4-H Youth Development: Sarah Thompson, 4H Youth Development Coordinator, reported on this year's summer camp experience. 65 youth attended along with 15 high school youth counselors and 14 adult chaperones. She also reported Winnebago County took part in a grant sponsored project for using I Pads to take food and beverage orders at the 4-H Dipper. Sarah also shared with the committee some of the highlights of the fair. She also wanted to thank several of the committee members for Barn and Cloverbud judging. 4-H/youth programs are completing the summer with a Lego™ Camp at the end of the month.

Community Resource and Development: Catherine Neiswender distributed information on the up coming Local Government Wisline schedule and reported the series will also be available at home and will be webinar based. Committee member Hegg wanted to know if the series will be available as a Podcast. Catherine will check into finding out if it available. Catherine also shared information about the UWEX Center for Community Technology Solutions. The center will assist communities grow their technology access.

Agriculture/Horticulture: Nick Schneider reported on the status of the community gardens. The land the gardens are on is owned by Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). We had a 5 year lease that is expiring this year. Kim Miller, UWEX Horticulturist and Nick have been working with DNR on an agreement. DNR is agreeing to a 5 year lease, with an annual fee paid at the agricultural rate of \$100.00 per acre. Motion to enter into the agreement with DNR for the 5 year lease by Tom Snider / Seconded by Guy Hegg. Motion carried 4 – 0 - 1 (1- abstained Hegg).

Nick also informed the committee about the discovery of Emerald Ash Bore in Winnebago County. A public informational meeting is scheduled August 29th, at Wittman Airport terminal. The UW-Extension has been updating the website with the latest information and resources concerning the insect.

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Department Budget: Chris Kniep and Committee Chair Nancy Barker will attend the budget hearing on Friday, August 16th.

UWEX Up-dates: Chris Kniep, reported the fair was over and she praised Sarah Thompson and the UW- staff for all the hard work they put into the fair and thanked the committee members who took part in barn and Cloverbud judging.

The VISTA volunteers are finishing up the summer and a couple of the interns are coming back to help with Lego™ Camp.

Kristi Cutts and Chris Kniep along with two other members of UW-Extension housing team will be receiving a Chancellor Award for the Rent Smart Program on Thursday, September 12th.

Comments by Committee Members: Committee members Hegg and Widener addressed the committee regarding comments about the horticulture position and meeting attendance.

Committee Meeting Date: Tom Widener/Tom Snider moved to cancel the September 19th meeting. Motion carried 4-1.

Next Meeting: October 17, 2013, 9:00 a.m.

Motion to adjourn: Tom Widener / Susan Locke, Motion carried 5-0.

Adjourned: 10:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Melody Piper
Recording Secretary